

Remarks

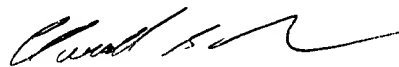
We have canceled the pending claims in favor of four new claims. The newly submitted claims define an apparatus for treating the atmosphere wherein an outdoor component of an HVAC system bears an ozone treatment catalyst. The claims are supported throughout the specification, including from page 5, line 33 to page 6, line 27; page 9, lines 7-30; page 17, line 29 to page 18, line 8; page 31, line 30 to page 32, line 22; and, as a non-limiting example, Example 18 beginning on page 84.

Applicants have discovered and claimed a novel apparatus for ozone abatement from the atmosphere, which utilizes an outdoor component of an HVAC system. Through their invention, Applicants have leveraged outdoor components of an HVAC systems: the high space velocities (bulk air movement) and/or elevated temperatures associated with such components can greatly improve ozone conversion efficiencies. We respectfully submit that none of the cited references teaches or suggests an atmospheric ozone abatement apparatus utilizing an outdoor HVAC component, as defined in the present claims.

In light of the foregoing, we respectfully submit that the claims, as amended, define a novel and non-obvious invention that fully merits patent protection. Accordingly, we respectfully request that the entire application be allowed at an early date. If there remain any issues that the Examiner believes may be resolved through discussion, we cordially invite the Examiner to contact Applicants' representative at the phone number provided below.

This response is being filed after five months but before six months after the March 10, 2004 date of the outstanding Office action. Authorization to charge the fee required for a three-month extension for response, as well as any other fee deemed to be required, to deposit Account No. 05-1070 is hereby granted.

Respectfully submitted,



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09/766,723 (3912E (DIV))
Amendment
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